

Message Text

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73

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SPC-03 SAM-01 AID-20 NSC-10

RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

COME-00 AGR-20 TAR-02 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DRC-01 /161 W

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R 131600Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9899

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 0954

E.O. 11652

TAGS: ETRD, BE

SUBJECT: EXPORT CONTROLS AND EXPORT TAXES IMPOSED BY BELGIUM.

REF: STATE 22871

1. FOLLOWING INFORMATION RELATES TO BELGIAN EXPORT CONTROLS AND TAXES IMPOSED OR TIGHTENED SINCE JANUARY 1973, AS REQUESTED IN REFTEL.

2. GOB ISSUED MINISTERIAL DECREE ON MARCH 20, 1973 WHICH LISTED ALL COMMODITIES FOR WHICH GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE AUTHORITY TO REQUIRE EXPORT LICENSES. NEW LIST WAS ESSENTIALLY REPEAT OF LIST ORIGINALLY ISSUED ON OCTOBER 24, 1962 AS AMENDED BUT MODIFIED TO INCLUDE NEW OBLIGATION UNDER EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR FREE TRADE WITHIN EEC. GOB DID NOT AT TIME OF ISSUE AND DOES NOT NOW ACTUALLY REQUIRE EXPORT LICENSES FOR VAST MAJORITY OF ITEMS ON LIST. EXISTING BELGIAN EXPORT CONTROLS PRE-DATE 1973 AND LARGELY RELATE TO COCOM OBLIGATIONS.

3. MINISTERIAL DECREE OF MARCH 20, 1973 WAS MODIFIED BY MINISTERIAL DECREES OF OCTOBER 19, 1973 AND JANUARY 24, 1974.

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DECREE OF OCTOBER 19, 1973 ADDED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TO LIST

OF ITEMS SUBJECT TO GOVERNMENT EXPORT CONTROL. SOON AFTER
PROMULGATION OF OCTOBER 19 DECREE GOB INSTITUTED EXPORT
LICENSING SYSTEM FOR PETROLEUM PRODUCTS (BRUSSELS 6123
OCT. 26, 1973). GOB INSISTS EXPORT LICENSE REQUIREMENT FOR
PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IS STRICTLY FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES BUT
THERE ARE STRONG INDICATIONS IT WAS USED IN EARLY NOVEMBER 1973

AND JANUARY 1974 TO CONTROL VOLUME OF PETROLEUM EXPORTS (BRUSSELS
904 AND PREVIOUS).

4. ONLY OTHER SIGNIFICANT BELGIAN CONTROLS ON EXPORTS OF BASIC
INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS ARE IN CONTEXT OF A PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL
AGREEMENT (VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT AGREEMENT ON STEEL) OR EUROPEAN
ECONOMIC COMMUNITY ARRANGEMENTS (CERTAIN CINDERS AND RESIDUES OF
COPPER; WASTE AND FRAGMENTS OF COPPER, ALUMINUM AND LEAD;
FERROUS SCRAP, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. SEE EC BRUSSELS 919).

5. ONLY PRODUCTS FOR WHICH PRESSURE FOR EXPORT CONTROLS LIKELY
ARE PETROLEUM PRODUCTS.

6. NO RPT NO EXPORTS TAXES ARE IMPOSED BY GOB.

7 FULL TEXTS OF RELEVANT GOB MINISTERIAL DECREES REFERRED TO
ABOVE ARE BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT. STRAUZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

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